

# The Voice of Maybee

Village of Maybee      issue 131      www.maybeevillage.com  
P.O. Box 36    734-587-2900    fax 734-587-6534    November 2010

---

## Council Corner

\*\*\*\*\*

---

At the last village council meeting Mr. Paul Kohler was present for the council hearing on the fire damaged building on Raisin Street. The demolition permit has been applied for and a contractor has been chosen. If the building has not been removed by the next council meeting, the village will have it torn down. Everyone present at the meeting was in agreement with the time frame as prescribed by law. President Gaylor reported to the council that the storm sewer problem on Main Street was repaired and the flooding problem should be over. He also reported to council that the downtown streetscape project is still moving forward and that it appears that the village will be receiving a grant to cover eighty percent of the cost for the project. This work along with the Railroad crossing repair and the proposed resurfacing of Bluebush and Raisin Street in the downtown area will be quite an improvement next year.

Dale Younglove and his helpers will be putting up the Christmas decorations the weekend after Thanksgiving. If you want to get involved, give Dale a call.

---

## Santa is coming to town

**Santa will be making his rounds through the village on Tuesday, December 7, starting at six at night. He will finish up at the L.M.R. Fire hall on Baldwin Road. (it has moved back from the old village hall on Raisin Street.) There will still be singing, hot chocolate and candy for the kids. You are welcome to take pictures of the kids with Santa. Tell all your friends and family of the change in location. Festivities will start at the hall at seven o'clock. Do not park in front of the building.**

## The Library Table

734-587-3680

Now with free Wi-Fi

---

### Preschool Storytime

Mondays @ 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM & Fridays @ 10:30 - 11:30

Preschool Storytime is intended for kids ages 3 years to 5 years. This program offers stories, songs, movement activities, art experiences, and fun each week.

---

### Closed Thanksgiving

Hanukkah Celebration!--Maybe Branch Library

**Event Type:** Arts & Crafts

**Age Group(s):** Family

**Date:** 12/1/2010

**Start Time:** 6:00 PM

**End Time:** 7:00 PM

**Description:** Hanukkah begins December 1st at sundown. Stop by to learn about this holiday and make some of your own Hanukkah crafts!**Library:**

**Contact:** [Kelli Venier](#)

Christmas Extravaganza!-- Maybe Branch Library

**Event Type:** Arts & Crafts

**Age Group(s):** Family

**Date:** 12/4/2010

**Start Time:** 11:00 AM

**End Time:** 12:30 PM

**Description:** Jump into the holiday season by building your own gingerbread house! Supplies will be provided to help you achieve your gingerbread home! Be sure to share your your list for our special holiday guest! **Library:**

## **When I was a Kid growing up in Maybee.....by Marjorie Van Auken**

When I was a kid growing up in Maybee, I was a card carrying “Book Worm”. From the moment I cracked open my first “Golden Book” at a very tender age and discovered that the three little kittens had lost their mittens, I WAS HOOKED! And I still am to this very day (although my taste in reading has changed drastically since that fateful day ...and by the way...the kittens *did find* their mittens).

Recently, I ran across a song book at a flea market called, “The Little Golden Book of Songs” and I recognized it immediately. It was what we used to use every Friday morning at Maybee Public in the Big Room when our teacher (Gladys Cole) would sit at the upright piano and play songs at our request as we sang our hearts out. That was like finding an old friend and I bought it immediately. It made me think of school days and how important books were, and still are, to me.

My life has been full of books...as a child, as a student, as a teacher. I began my own personal library of Little Golden Books as a very little girl. I recreated the quiet of a library by sitting in my closet to read them! When I was old enough to get a library card, I pillaged the shelves of children’s books at the Maybee Branch Library on a regular basis, sometimes staggering home with 16-17 books at a time. Starting at the top, I’d go through the stack one by one until it was time to go back for more. Summer reading contests were a piece of cake for me. I could reach my “destination” on the big board in no time and get my Official Certificate stamped with a gold seal long before the summer was over! Throughout my childhood, the library became my second home. I remember the summer before I started high school, I got it in my head that I needed a ‘jump start’ on my freshman year and I read as much intellectual literature as possible. I seriously worked my way through such books as Thomas More’s Utopia, Homer’s Iliad and Odyssey and The Conte of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas. Most of these were way over my head, but it seemed like a good idea at the time! Little did I know then that all of these would show up years later in literature text books from which I taught.

But when it came to school, that’s where my REAL love affair with books began. Every September a trip to Helzer’s General Store netted me a new set of text books... stiffly bound, unopened, clean-covered books! No pencil marks! And they smelled new! Sort of like “new car smell”, only for books. I kept my books looking good all year and hated to resell them the following year...some of them, I did keep. I also loved the workbooks we used at Maybee Public. I remember the series of “Think and Do” books that accompanied the readers throughout grade school. And who can forget those early elementary readers! Dick, Jane, Sally, Puff and Spot were *everyone’s family!* They were our friends and we grew up together as we progressed through the lower grades.

Once when I was in the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade, the teacher rearranged all the desks and mine ended up alongside the tall bookcase full of old books. One day when I was caught up on my work, I pulled a small ornate book from the shelf and opened it to discover to my great surprise, my dad’s name, Carl Rupp, neatly printed inside the cover. That amazed me! Just think, MY DAD read this book in this very room when *he* was a student here (then known as the Union School). And what’s more...it was a *poetry book!!!* Imagine that...my dad reading poetry as a young boy! It just shows how books can link us to past history...and sometimes, it’s our own!

Another great feature of being schooled in a rural country school was the monthly visit of the bookmobile from the Monroe County Library! How I loved that library on wheels. There was something so special about walking out of the schoolhouse and stepping up into a vehicle that magically turned into a carpeted *room*, lined with shelves and a desk for the “librarian” (driver). We had only a limited amount of time to make our selections because the mobile could accommodate just a few kids at a time and, of course, there were other schools to visit on the driver’s route. I surely loved that library on wheels and have happy memories of being in it many, many times over my elementary years.

In college, I really got down to business collecting books. My literature classes added beautiful volumes by many of the great writers such as Poe, Hemingway, Faulkner, Hawthorne, Shakespeare and others. Thirty-four years of teaching... research for lesson plans...and personal reading... well-overloaded what bookshelves I had. Today one can download whole books on a "Kindle" or other similar devices and turn the pages by a touch of the finger to the screen. Just think! A whole library in the palm of your hand! But I confess, I am holdout to this technology. I am not ready to forfeit the pleasure an actual book gives me. I love the beauty of the book itself, the texture of the cover, the embossed lettering of the title. I like the privilege of keeping the books after I'm finished amongst all the others, on a shelf where I can revisit them. I like reading with a pen or pencil in my hand so I can underline, make notations or observations in the margins. I want to make the book *mine*.

From lots and lots of books over the years, I have learned wisdom and how it connects to my own life experiences. I have been entertained, I have escaped the daily life and I have "made friends" that only exist between the pages. I have felt sad when finishing some books because I have to let go of those friends. But books have brought me great pleasure throughout all the years and it all started when I was a little kid...growing up in Maybee.